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8 November 1961

Briefing of Coordination Staff by Mr. J. Patrick Coyne  
on 31 October 1961 re PFIAB Recommendation No. 15  
on Scientific and Technical Intelligence (S&T)

Mr. Coyne, after stating that he was speaking for himself rather than for the Board, made the following observations:

1. The Board had available for its consideration of S & T not only its own expertise and the oral testimony of knowledgeable witnesses but also certain studies, including a consultant study primarily devoted to CIA/OSI and studies prepared for OSO, JCS, NSA, and pertinent portions of the JSG Report. Parts of the OSI study were read. Certain other studies of importance are now under way, e.g., the DOD study of technical intelligence (as related to DIA responsibilities).
2. The Board felt that, since the world is developing rapidly in Technology, Intelligence (S & T) should have a broader and improved technological base in analyzing Sino-Soviet Bloc capabilities. The Board's emphasis on S & T is not to suggest that political and other traditional intelligence efforts should be slighted. Rather, the Board felt that the present tense military situation required that new and greater emphasis be applied to the backbone of war -- S & T. The disproportionate effort devoted to order of battle intelligence was cited.
3. The problem is very broad, with no clearly identifiable parameters. It extends in fact beyond the intelligence community's traditional responsibilities, practices and organizational relationships. The preponderant uncoordinated S & T effort is in DOD, but the intelligence community as a whole is not sufficiently coordinated or integrated in this field. The formation of the DIA should be a helpful factor.
4. Deficiencies in collection efforts are to be emphasized strongly, as well as deficiencies in analysis and coordination. The entire spectrum should be covered from open sources to the most sophisticated collection methods available to the entire intelligence community. The Board is concerned that the U. S. intelligence community is not as well organized as it might be to handle the steadily increasing flow of S & T information, including published materials from the Bloc.
5. The Board feels that much improvement can be made within existing organizations, especially within DOD, and does not mean

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that major reorganizations are required. The Board considers the OSI use of task forces on special problems to be a good idea. The Board feels that many worthwhile steps have already been taken, for example, the formation of the Foreign Technology Division in the Air Force Systems Command. S & T intelligence should not be overly centralized, but should be more effectively coordinated in fact as well as in name.

6. The Board noted a lack of sufficient numbers of scientifically trained people in responsible positions in the fields of planning, collection, etc., in CIA (DD/P and OSI) and DOD, and that the USIB membership does not include any scientists. The Board also noted that, in the military services, rotation of officers in scientific and technical intelligence fields is a problem. The wealth of technological talent both inside and outside the government should be more effectively exploited. Government salary ceilings are a major hurdle. Perhaps something like IDA could help.

7. As an example of poor coordination, the Air Force is not fully in the NPIC picture and the national interest would be better served if the Photo Interpretation effort were better integrated. In the field of data processing, the effort is still along departmental lines, although a USIB committee is examining this subject. In the NSA field, is there sufficient and timely exploitation of scientific information?

8. In summary, the President's Board had in mind only one thing -- the improvement of S & T intelligence on the Soviet Bloc both as to quality and timeliness. There is need to make maximum use of all assets, increase collection of raw information, and discriminate in the use of skilled talent to insure priority of effort in this important field.

AC/DCI:JSL, based on notes by  
DWB, JHP, ASB, RAK, EAL, and DAB



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